

# CENTRAL ELEMENTS OF THE ALGEBRAS $U'_q(\text{so}_m)$ AND $U_q(\text{iso}_m)$

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## Abstract

The aim of this paper is to give a set of central elements of the algebras  $U'_q(\text{so}_m)$  and  $U_q(\text{iso}_m)$  when  $q$  is a root of unity. They are surprisingly arise from a single polynomial Casimir element of the algebra  $U'_q(\text{so}_3)$ . It is conjectured that the Casimir elements of these algebras under any values of  $q$  (not only for  $q$  a root of unity) and the central elements for  $q$  a root of unity derived in this paper generate the centers of  $U'_q(\text{so}_m)$  and  $U_q(\text{iso}_m)$  when  $q$  is a root of unity.

**1.** The algebra  $U'_q(\text{so}_m)$  is a nonstandard  $q$ -deformation of the universal enveloping algebra  $U(\text{so}_m)$  of the Lie algebra  $\text{so}_m$ . It was defined in [1] as the associative algebra (with a unit) generated by the elements  $I_{21}, I_{32}, \dots, I_{m,m-1}$  satisfying the defining relations

$$I_{i+1,i}I_{i,i-1}^2 - (q + q^{-1})I_{i,i-1}I_{i+1,i}I_{i,i-1} + I_{i,i-1}^2I_{i+1,i} = -I_{i+1,i}, \quad (1)$$

$$I_{i+1,i}^2I_{i,i-1} - (q + q^{-1})I_{i+1,i}I_{i,i-1}I_{i+1,i} + I_{i,i-1}I_{i+1,i}^2 = -I_{i,i-1}, \quad (2)$$

$$[I_{i,i-1}, I_{j,j-1}] = 0 \quad \text{for } |i - j| > 1, \quad (3)$$

where  $[.,.]$  denotes the usual commutator. In the limit  $q \rightarrow 1$  formulas (1)–(3) give the relations defining the universal enveloping algebra  $U(\text{so}_m)$ . Note also that the relations (1) and (2) differ from the  $q$ -deformed Serre relations in the approach of Drinfeld and Jimbo to quantum orthogonal algebras (see, for example, [2]) by presence of nonzero right hand sides in (1) and (2).

For the algebra  $U'_q(\text{so}_3)$  the relations (1)–(3) are reduced to the following two relations:

$$I_{32}I_{21}^2 - (q + q^{-1})I_{21}I_{32}I_{21} + I_{21}^2I_{32} = -I_{32}, \quad (4)$$

$$I_{32}^2I_{21} - (q + q^{-1})I_{32}I_{21}I_{32} + I_{21}I_{32}^2 = -I_{21}. \quad (5)$$

Denoting  $I_{21}$  and  $I_{32}$  by  $I_1$  and  $I_2$ , respectively, and introducing the element  $I_3 := q^{1/2}I_1I_2 - q^{-1/2}I_2I_1$  we find that relations (4) and (5) are equivalent to three relations

$$q^{1/2}I_1I_2 - q^{-1/2}I_2I_1 = I_3, \quad (6)$$

$$q^{1/2}I_2I_3 - q^{-1/2}I_3I_2 = I_1, \quad (7)$$

$$q^{1/2}I_3I_1 - q^{-1/2}I_1I_3 = I_2. \quad (8)$$

The Inonu–Wigner construction applied to the algebra  $U'_q(\text{so}_m)$  leads to the algebra  $U_q(\text{iso}_{m-1})$  which was defined in [3]. The algebra  $U_q(\text{iso}_m)$  is the associative algebra (with a unit) generated by the elements  $I_{21}, I_{32}, \dots, I_{m,m-1}, T_m$  such that the elements  $I_{21}, I_{32}, \dots, I_{m,m-1}$  satisfy the defining relations of the algebra  $U'_q(\text{so}_m)$  and the additional defining relations

$$I_{m,m-1}^2 T_m - (q + q^{-1}) I_{m,m-1} T_m I_{m,m-1} + T_m I_{m,m-1}^2 = -T_m,$$

$$I_{m,m-1} T_m^2 - (q + q^{-1}) T_m I_{m,m-1} T_m + T_m^2 I_{m,m-1} = -I_{m,m-1},$$

$$[I_{k,k-1}, T_m] := I_{k,k-1} T_m - T_m I_{k,k-1} = 0 \quad \text{if } k < m.$$

If  $q = 1$ , then these relations define the universal enveloping algebra  $U(\text{iso}_m)$  of the Lie algebra  $\text{iso}_m$  of the Lie group  $ISO(m)$ .

The algebra  $U(\text{iso}_2)$  is generated by two elements  $I_{21}$  and  $T_2$  satisfying the relations

$$I_{21}^2 T_2 - (q + q^{-1}) I_{21} T_2 I_{21} + T_2 I_{21}^2 = -T_2, \quad (9)$$

$$I_{21} T_2^2 - (q + q^{-1}) T_2 I_{21} T_2 + T_2^2 I_{21} = -I_{21}. \quad (10)$$

Denoting  $I_{21}$  by  $I$  and introducing the element  $T_1 := [I, T_2]_q \equiv q^{1/2} IT_2 - q^{-1/2} T_2 I$ , we find that the relations (9) and (10) are equivalent to the relations

$$[I, T_2]_q = T_1, \quad [T_1, I]_q = T_2, \quad [T_2, T_1]_q = 0. \quad (11)$$

**2.** In  $U'_q(\text{so}_m)$  we can determine [4] elements analogous to the basis matrices  $I_{ij}$ ,  $i > j$ , (defined, for example, in [5]) of  $\text{so}_m$ . In order to give them we use the notation  $I_{k,k-1} \equiv I_{k,k-1}^+ \equiv I_{k,k-1}^-$ . Then for  $k > l + 1$  we define recursively

$$I_{kl}^\pm := [I_{l+1,l}, I_{k,l+1}]_{q^{\pm 1}} \equiv q^{\pm 1/2} I_{l+1,l} I_{k,l+1} - q^{-\pm 1/2} I_{k,l+1} I_{l+1,l}. \quad (12)$$

The elements  $I_{kl}^+$ ,  $k > l$ , satisfy the commutation relations

$$[I_{ln}^+, I_{kl}^+]_q = I_{kn}^+, \quad [I_{kl}^+, I_{kn}^+]_q = I_{ln}^+, \quad [I_{kn}^+, I_{ln}^+]_q = I_{kl}^+ \quad \text{for } k > l > n, \quad (13)$$

$$[I_{kl}^+, I_{nr}^+]_q = 0 \quad \text{for } k > l > n > r \text{ and } k > n > r > l, \quad (14)$$

$$[I_{kl}^+, I_{nr}^+]_q = (q - q^{-1})(I_{lr}^+ I_{kn}^+ - I_{kr}^+ I_{nl}^+) \quad \text{for } k > n > l > r. \quad (15)$$

For  $I_{kl}^-$ ,  $k > l$ , the commutation relations are obtained by replacing  $I_{kl}^+$  by  $I_{kl}^-$  and  $q$  by  $q^{-1}$ .

Using the diamond lemma (see, for example, Chapter 4 in [2]), N. Iorgov proved the Poincaré–Birkhoff–Witt theorem for the algebra  $U'_q(\text{so}_m)$  (proof of it will be published):

**Theorem 1.** *The elements  $I_{21}^{+n_{21}} I_{32}^{+n_{32}} I_{31}^{+n_{31}} \cdots I_{m1}^{+n_{m1}}$ ,  $n_{ij} = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ , form a basis of the algebra  $U'_q(\text{so}_m)$ .*

This theorem is true if the elements  $I_{ij}^+$  are replaced by the corresponding elements  $I_{ij}^-$ .

Using the generating elements  $I_{21}, I_{32}, \dots, I_{m,m-1}$  of the algebra  $U_q(\text{iso}_m)$  we define by formula (12) the elements  $I_{ij}^\pm$ ,  $i > j$ , in this algebra. Besides, in  $U_q(\text{iso}_m)$  we also define recursively the elements

$$T_k^\pm := [I_{k+1,k}, T_{k+1}^\pm]_{q^\pm}, \quad k = 1, 2, \dots, m-1.$$

It is shown in [6] that the elements  $I_{ij}^+$ ,  $i > j$ , and  $T_k^+$ ,  $1 \leq k \leq m$ , satisfy the commutation relations (13)–(15) and the relations

$$\begin{aligned} [I_{ln}^+, T_l^+]_q &= T_n^+, \quad [T_n^+, I_{ln}^+]_q = T_l^+ \quad \text{for } l > n, \\ [T_l^+, I_{np}^+]_q &= 0 \quad \text{for } l > n > p \text{ or } n > p > l, \\ [T_l^+, I_{np}^+]_q &= (q - q^{-1})(T_n^+ I_{lp}^+ - T_p^+ I_{nl}^+) \quad \text{for } n > l > p, \\ [T_l^+, T_n^+]_q &= 0 \quad \text{for } n < l. \end{aligned}$$

For  $U_q(\text{iso}_m)$  the Poincaré–Birkhoff–Witt theorem is formulated as

**Theorem 2.** *The elements  $I_{21}^{+n_{21}} I_{32}^{+n_{32}} I_{31}^{+n_{31}} \dots I_{m1}^{+n_{m1}} T_1^{+n_1} T_2^{+n_2} \dots T_m^{+n_m}$  with  $n_{ij}, n_k = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ , form a basis of the algebra  $U_q(\text{iso}_m)$ .*

**3.** It is easy to check that for any value of  $q$  the algebra  $U'_q(\text{so}_3)$  has the Casimir element

$$C_q = q^2 I_1^2 + I_2^2 + q^2 I_3^2 + q^{1/2}(1 - q^2)I_1 I_2 I_3.$$

As in the case of quantum algebras (see, for example, Chapter 6 in [2]), at  $q$  a root of unity this algebra has additional central elements.

**Theorem 3.** *Let  $q^n = 1$  for  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $q^j \neq 1$  for  $0 < j < n$ . Then the elements*

$$C^{(n)}(I_j) = \sum_{j=0}^{\lfloor \frac{n-1}{2} \rfloor} \binom{n-j}{j} \frac{1}{n-j} \left( \frac{i}{q - q^{-1}} \right)^{2j} I_j^{n-2j}, \quad j = 1, 2, 3, \quad (16)$$

belong to the center of  $U'_q(\text{so}_3)$ , where  $[x]$  for  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  denotes the integral part of  $x$ .

The proof of this theorem is rather complicated (see [7]). First it is proved that  $C^{(n)}(I_1)$  belongs to the center of  $U'_q(\text{so}_3)$ . This proof is based on the formula  $I_3 I_1^m = p_m(I_1)I_2 + q_m(I_1)I_3$ , where

$$p_m(x) = q^{-\frac{1}{2}} \left( \frac{x(q+q^{-1})}{2} \right)^{m-1} \sum_{t=0}^{\lfloor \frac{m-1}{2} \rfloor} \binom{m}{2t+1} \left( \left( \frac{q-q^{-1}}{q+q^{-1}} \right)^2 - \left( \frac{2}{x(q+q^{-1})} \right)^2 \right)^t,$$

$$q_m(x) = -q^{\frac{1}{2}} \frac{x(q-q^{-1})}{2} p_m(x) + \left( \frac{x(q+q^{-1})}{2} \right)^m \sum_{t=0}^{\lfloor \frac{m}{2} \rfloor} \binom{m}{2t} \left( \left( \frac{q-q^{-1}}{q+q^{-1}} \right)^2 - \left( \frac{2}{x(q+q^{-1})} \right)^2 \right)^t.$$

The proof also needs deep combinatorial identities, such that

$$\sum_{t=0}^{\lfloor \frac{N-1}{2} \rfloor} \binom{N}{2t+1} \binom{\lfloor \frac{N-1}{2} \rfloor - t}{\lfloor \frac{N-1}{2} \rfloor - C} \binom{t}{M} =$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= 4^{C-M} \binom{C}{M} (N - 2C(1 - N')) \frac{(2[\frac{N}{2}])!([\frac{N}{2}] + C - M)!([\frac{N}{2}] - M)!}{[\frac{N}{2}]!(2C+1)!(2[\frac{N}{2}] - 2M)!([\frac{N}{2}] - C)!}, \\
&\sum_{j=0}^d \binom{n-j}{j} \frac{2d-2j+1+(n-2d-1)n'}{n-j} \binom{[\frac{n-1}{2}]-d}{c-j} \cdot \frac{(2[\frac{n}{2}]-2j)!(n-1-c-d)!([\frac{n}{2}]-c)!}{([\frac{n}{2}]-j)!(d-j+1-n')!(2[\frac{n}{2}]-2c)!(n-2d+n'-1)!} = \\
&= \frac{\binom{n-1-d}{d} \binom{n-1-c}{c}}{(\frac{n}{2})^{1-n'} (n-2d)^{n'}},
\end{aligned}$$

where  $N, n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $0 \leq C, M \leq [\frac{N-1}{2}]$ ,  $0 \leq c, d \leq [\frac{n-1}{2}]$  and  $N', n' = 0$  or  $1$  such that  $N' = N \bmod 2$  and  $n' = n \bmod 2$ . One also needs an extensive use of the fact that  $q$  is a root of unity.

If it is proved that  $C^{(n)}(I_1)$  belongs to the center of  $U'_q(\text{so}_3)$ , then we have to use the automorphism  $\rho: U'_q(\text{so}_3) \rightarrow U'_q(\text{so}_3)$  defined by relations  $\rho(I_1) = I_2$ ,  $\rho(I_2) = I_3$ ,  $\rho(I_3) = I_1$ . This automorphism shows that  $C^{(n)}(I_2)$  and  $C^{(n)}(I_3)$  also belong to the center of  $U'_q(\text{so}_3)$ .

**Conjecture 1.** If  $q$  is a root of unity as above, then the elements  $C_q$  and  $C^{(n)}(I_j)$ ,  $j = 1, 2, 3$ , generate the center of  $U'_q(\text{so}_3)$ .

4. Central elements of the algebra  $U'_q(\text{so}_m)$  for any value of  $q$  are found in [8] and [9]. They are given in the form of homogeneous polynomials of elements of  $U'_q(\text{so}_m)$ . If  $q$  is a root of unity, then (as in the case of quantum algebras) there are additional central elements of  $U'_q(\text{so}_m)$ .

**Theorem 4.** Let  $q^n = 1$  for  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $q^j \neq 1$  for  $0 < j < n$ . Then the elements

$$C^{(n)}(I_{kl}^+) = \sum_{j=0}^{[\frac{n-1}{2}]} \binom{n-j}{j} \frac{1}{n-j} \left( \frac{i}{q - q^{-1}} \right)^{2j} I_{kl}^{+n-2j}, \quad k > l, \quad (17)$$

belong to the center of  $U'_q(\text{so}_m)$ .

Let us prove this theorem for the algebra  $U'_q(\text{so}_4)$  (for the general case a proof is the same). This algebra is generated by the elements  $I_{43}$ ,  $I_{32}$ ,  $I_{21}$ . We introduce the elements  $I_{31} \equiv I_{31}^+$ ,  $I_{42} \equiv I_{42}^+$ ,  $I_{41} \equiv I_{41}^+$  defined as indicated above. Then the elements  $I_{ij}$ ,  $i > j$ , satisfy the relations

$$[I_{43}, I_{21}] = 0, \quad [I_{32}, I_{31}]_q = I_{21}, \quad [I_{21}, I_{32}]_q = I_{31}, \quad (18)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&[I_{31}, I_{21}]_q = I_{32}, \quad [I_{43}, I_{42}]_q = I_{32}, \quad [I_{32}, I_{43}]_q = I_{42}, \\
&[I_{42}, I_{32}]_q = I_{43}, \quad [I_{31}, I_{43}]_q = I_{41}, \quad [I_{21}, I_{42}]_q = I_{41}, \\
&[I_{41}, I_{21}]_q = I_{42}, \quad [I_{41}, I_{31}]_q = I_{43}, \quad [I_{42}, I_{41}]_q = I_{21}, \\
&[I_{41}, I_{32}] = 0, \quad [I_{43}, I_{41}]_q = I_{31}, \quad [I_{42}, I_{31}] = (q - q^{-1})(I_{21}I_{43} - I_{41}I_{32}).
\end{aligned}$$

If one wants to prove that an element  $X$  belongs to the center of  $U'_q(\text{so}_4)$ , it is sufficient to prove that  $[X, I_{21}] = [X, I_{32}] = [X, I_{43}] = 0$ .

Let us consider the element  $C^{(n)}(I_{21})$ . It belongs to the subalgebra  $U'_q(\text{so}_3)$  generated by  $I_{21}$ ,  $I_{32}$  and  $I_{31}$ :

$$\begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline I_{21} & I_{31} \\ \hline \boxed{I_{32}} & I_{42} \\ \hline & I_{43} \\ \hline \end{array} \quad I_{41}$$

It follows from Theorem 3 that  $C^{(n)}(I_{21})$  commutes with element  $I_{32}$ . Using the first relation in (18) we easily see that  $C^{(n)}(I_{21})$  commutes with  $I_{43}$  and therefore  $C^{(n)}(I_{21})$  belongs to the center of  $U'_q(\text{so}_4)$ .

Let us consider the element  $C^{(n)}(I_{32})$ . In  $U'_q(\text{so}_4)$  we separate two subalgebras  $U'_q(\text{so}_3)$ :

$$\begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline I_{21} & I_{31} \\ \hline \boxed{I_{32}} & I_{42} \\ \hline & I_{43} \\ \hline \end{array} \quad I_{41}$$

From Theorem 3 we have  $[C^{(n)}(I_{32}), I_{21}] = [C^{(n)}(I_{32}), I_{43}] = 0$  and  $C^{(n)}(I_{32})$  belongs to the center of  $U'_q(\text{so}_4)$ . A proof that the element  $C^{(n)}(I_{43})$  belongs to the center is the same as for  $C^{(n)}(I_{21})$ .

The elements  $C^{(n)}(I_{31})$ ,  $C^{(n)}(I_{42})$  and  $C^{(n)}(I_{41})$  belong to the center of  $U'_q(\text{so}_4)$  since they belong to the subalgebras  $U'_q(\text{so}_3)$  generated by triplets

$$I_{41}, \quad I_{31}, \quad I_{43} \quad \text{and} \quad I_{21}, \quad I_{41}, \quad I_{42}.$$

(Note that  $C^{(n)}(I_{31})$  and  $C^{(n)}(I_{42})$  commute with  $I_{42}$  and  $I_{31}$ , respectively, since  $I_{42} = [I_{32}, I_{43}]_q$  and  $I_{31} = [I_{21}, I_{32}]_q$ ) Theorem is proved.

**Conjecture 2.** *If  $q$  is a root of unity as above, then the central elements of [9] and of Theorem 4 generate the center of  $U'_q(\text{so}_m)$ .*

**5.** Let us consider the associative algebra  $U'_{q,\varepsilon}(\text{so}_3)$  (where  $\varepsilon \geq 0$ ) generated by three generators  $J_1, J_2, J_3$  satisfying the relations:

$$[J_1, J_2]_q := q^{1/2} J_1 J_2 - q^{-1/2} J_2 J_1 = J_3, \quad [J_2, J_3]_q = J_1, \quad [J_3, J_1]_q = \varepsilon^2 J_2.$$

It is easily proved that this algebra is isomorphic to the algebra  $U'_q(\text{so}_3)$  and the corresponding isomorphism is uniquely defined by  $J_1 \rightarrow \varepsilon I_1$ ,  $J_3 \rightarrow \varepsilon I_3$ ,  $J_2 \rightarrow I_2$ . Therefore, the elements

$$\tilde{C}^{(n)}(J_i, \varepsilon) := n\varepsilon^n C^{(n)}(J_i/\varepsilon), \quad i = 1, 3, \quad \tilde{C}^{(n)}(J_2, \varepsilon) := C^{(n)}(J_2)$$

belong to the center of  $U'_{q,\varepsilon}(\text{so}_3)$  if  $q^n = 1$ . By means of the contraction  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$  we transform the algebra  $U'_{q,\varepsilon}(\text{so}_3)$  into the algebra  $U'_q(\text{iso}_2)$ . Under this contraction the commutation relations  $[\tilde{C}^{(n)}(J_i, \varepsilon), J_k] = 0$  transform into the relations  $[\tilde{C}^{(n)}(J_i, 0), J_k] = 0$ . In other words, we have proved the following

**Theorem 5.** *Let  $q^n = 1$  for  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $q^j \neq 1$  for  $0 < j < n$ . Then the elements  $T_1^n, T_2^n$  and  $C^{(n)}(I)$  belong to the center of the algebra  $U'_q(\text{iso}_2)$ .*

It was shown in [10] that the element

$$C_q = q^{-1}T_1^2 + qT_2^2 + q^{-3/2}(1 - q^2)T_1T_2I$$

is central in  $U'_q(\text{iso}_2)$ .

**Conjecture 3.** *If  $q$  is a root of unity as above, then the elements  $C_q$ ,  $T_1^n$ ,  $T_2^n$  and  $C^{(n)}(I)$  generate the center of  $U'_q(\text{iso}_2)$ .*

Using Theorem 5 and repeating the proof of Theorem 4 we prove the following theorem:

**Theorem 6.** *Let  $q^n = 1$  for  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $q^j \neq 1$  for  $0 < j < n$ . Then the elements*

$$C^{(n)}(I_{ij}), \quad i > j, \quad T_j^n, \quad j = 1, 2, \dots, m,$$

*belong to the center of the algebra  $U'_q(\text{iso}_m)$ .*

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